



El-news



IRTS supporting Amateur Radio

Editor: Steve Wright wrights1@eircom.net

newsteam@irts.ie

January 2018

Start the New Year! Don't forget the IRTS 80 metres counties contest on New Year's Day, 15:00 to 17:00 UTC. There are SSB only and SSB/CW mixed mode sections for both fixed and portable stations. Multipliers are the 32 EI and GI counties plus overseas DXCC entities. See www.irts.ie/contests for the full rules which include the permitted frequencies ranges.

EI5ØAOM remembers the tragic crash fifty years ago of Aer Lingus Viscount airliner EI-AOM in the Irish Sea near the Tuskar Rock Lighthouse and honours the 61 lives lost, still the largest single loss of life in Irish civil aviation history. Late on a crisp, clear Sunday morning, the 24th March 1968, the airliner left Cork bound for London Heathrow. Within ten minutes of takeoff, the plane developed problems. Forty-two minutes after takeoff, 61 crew and passengers from Ireland, Britain, Switzerland, Belgium, Sweden, the United States and the Netherlands lost their lives. Tragically, it seems certain that those on board would have known that the end was near and yet had half an hour before their fate was sealed.

Operated by Tim EI2KA, the Special Event station **EI5ØAOM** has been licensed to operate January through March 2018. The station will be active in the IRTS 80m Contest on New Year's Day. The station will devote one day, beginning 22 January, to remember each of the four crew and 57 passengers who died, with operations culminating on the fiftieth anniversary of the crash, 24 March 2018.

EI1ØMCV will be active throughout the year 2018. The special call sign reflects the original call sign 'MCV' of the *RMS Leinster* and is to mark the Centenary of the sinking of the *RMS Leinster* in the Irish Sea on 10th October 1918, a month before the end of World War 1. This was, and still is, the single largest loss of life in the Irish Sea with a total of 567 people lost. The ship was torpedoed by a U Boat 25 kilometres off the Irish coast. To add to the tragedy that particular U Boat was sunk two weeks later with the loss of all 33 crew. All were very young, the oldest being just 27 years old.



Image courtesy of
M.H.Gill & Co.

Phoenix Amateur Radio Club Rally

Sunday 11th February 2018

Coolmine Community School, Dublin D15 FW97

Doors open at **10:00** a.m.

To book a table contact Tony at 087 243 9997

See www.irts.ie/rallies

Committee Vacancies 2018

As required by Rule 11.4 of the IRTS Constitution and Rules (www.irts.ie/downloads) six of the eleven members of the current Committee will not be eligible for re-election at the 2018 AGM, having served consecutive terms of three years. Volunteers for Committee positions, who must be members of the Society for not less than three years (Rule 9.1(c)), are urgently required. The Committee meets for two hours on a Saturday morning six or seven times annually, the venue currently alternating between Athlone and Portlaoise. If you would like to help in the work of the Society, or you know someone who would, please contact IRTS President Gerry EI8CC



Morse testing will be held at The Creggan Court Hotel in Athlone starting at 1400 on Saturday 20th January. Intending candidates can book a place by contacting Dave EI4BZ on 087 629 0574 or by email to ei4bz@eircom.net

ECHO IRELAND

There is a vacancy for the position of Editor of Echo Ireland. If you would like to contribute to the production of the Society's Journal contact Gerry EI8CC



IRTS AGM 2018

14/15 April 2018



Galway Bay Hotel, Salthill, Galway

Lectures, Dinner, Rally and AGM

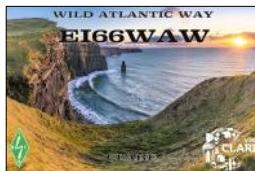


Hosted by Galway VHF Group



Updated information on www.irts.ie/agm

Wild Atlantic Way At the time of writing the WAW initiative has entered its final hours - it comes to an end at midnight on Sunday the 31st December. The last few weeks have seen a significant increase in activity on all the WAW callsigns. Thanks to everyone who participated, in any way over the past year, to make it so successful. Great credit and thanks is due to Limerick Radio Club for this initiative. The Club wishes to show its appreciation for the support from throughout EI.



While activity for the WAW operators ends, the work goes on for the WAW QSL Manager, Dave EI6AL. Please don't forget to send your logs as soon as possible to him, so that he can crunch the numbers to make the totals available as soon as possible after the 31st December 2017 end date.

Some Club News Limerick Radio Club meetings resume on the 11th January when Harry EI2KL will give a talk about what life is like at sea these days. He's been there recently and lived to tell the tale. It promises to be an interesting talk as he contrasts life as a Radio Officer, way back when, to how communications are established from ships today. All are welcome.

Congratulations are due to SWL John who was successful in passing the HAREC exam. LRC wishes all a very happy, healthy and successful 2018.

At their recent AGM Tipperary Amateur Radio Group elected a new incoming committee. Paul EI3ENB will continue as the Group QSL Manager and Seamus EI8EPB as Group Technical Advisor. Concluding, Hugh EI2HI thanked all for their input and attendance at the meeting.

The new committee as elected is: Chairman: Hugh O'Donnell EI2HI; Vice Chairman: Andy Jay EI5JF; Secretary: John Ronan EI7IG; Treasurer: Thomas Hallinan EI2IT; Group PRO: Ronan Daly EI4KN.

It was agreed at the meeting that the venue for all group meetings in 2018 will continue to be The Park Hotel, Clonmel, Co Tipperary. For further information about the Group see their website ei7trg.ie.

Weekly meetings of the Wexford Wireless Club will resume as normal on Wednesday 3rd of January 2018.

For information about the club please contact the club secretary Michael Fitzgerald EI9GGB at QTHR or by dropping an email to wexfordwirelessclub@live.ie.

QRP The EI QRP and Homebrew Group on Facebook has been growing from strength to strength with over sixty members to date. Tony [EI5EM](#) reports that currently many of the members are building the QCX transceiver kits from [QRP Labs](#). The group is a great place for exchange of ideas and general information on QRP and homebrew activity in EI. So if you are on Facebook why not join the group?



Members Ads

For Sale: Kenwood TS-140S HF Transceiver, MC-43S handheld Mic + 12V DC Cable, Owners Manual - All V.G.C. €350. Yaesu FRG-100 HF receiver, incl FM module, 500Hz narrow CW filter, PA-11C 12V PSU €350. Photos of all items available.

Malcolm EI8FH 087 838 5919 maljoyce8@gmail.com

Silent Key Sale: Yaesu FT 920 €650. Linear Amplifier 6m Discovery €700. SPC HF ATU €400. Mags KNT-1000 13.8V 12A PSU €25. Watson 13.8V 35A PSU €80. MFJ 921 144 MHz ATU €70. Motorola M110 4m FM €40. Phillips M290 144 MHz €50. SMC2546L8 430 MHz €40. MFJ 1278B Data Controller €200. Timewave PK12 TNC €20. G3RUH 9600 Bd TNC €30. All sensible offers considered. Equipment in Shankill, Dublin 18. **Dave EI3IO** 087 236 7580 EI3IO@connogue.com

Happy New Year

from

LONG COMMUNICATIONS

Visit our stand at the
Phoenix Amateur Radio Club Rally

Sunday 11th February 2018

See www.irts.ie/rallies

South Eastern Amateur Radio Group would like

to wish all our radio friends and their families in Ireland and around the world every good wish for the new year ahead. We hope 2018 brings you all wealth, good health and plenty of new DXCCs.

The next Group meeting will be on Monday the 29th of January 2018 in the Roanmore Social and Sports Centre, Cleaboy Road, Waterford at 8.00 p.m. sharp. At this meeting **Keith EI5KF** will be doing a show-and-tell on working amateur radio satellites entitled "Satellites made simple!".

New members or anyone interested in learning more about amateur radio or the group are as always very welcome to attend. To find out more about SEARG activities come along to any of the meetings.

Check www.searg.ie and join us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.



Contests – January 2018

[WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#) : [RSGB HF Contests](#) : [UKEICC Contests](#) : [IRTS Contests](#)

Mon 1	15:00	2 hours	IRTS 80m Counties SSB/CW	80m, work everyone, send serial, county
Wed 3	20:00	1 hour	UKEICC SSB	80m, work everyone, exchange Locators, e.g. IO63
Sun 7	14:00	4 hours	RSGB AFS CW	80-40m, work everyone, exchange serials
Sat 13	14:00	4 hours	RSGB AFS SSB	80-40m, work everyone, exchange serials
Sun 14	09:00	2 hours	DARC 10m SSB/CW	10m, work everyone, serials (+ DOK from DL)
Sat 20	12:00	24 hours	Hungarian DX SSB/CW	160-10m, work everyone, serials (+ county code from HA)
Sat 20	14:00	4 hours	RSGB AFS Datamodes	80-40m, work everyone, exchange serials
Fri 26	22:00	48 hours	CQWW 160m CW	160m, send CQ zone, W & VE send state/province
Sat 27	06:00	36 hours	REF CW	80-10m, work France & French territories, send serial
Sat 27	13:00	24 hours	UBA SSB	80-10m, work everyone, serials (+ Province from ON)
Wed 31	20:00	1 hour	UKEICC CW	80m, work everyone, exchange Locators, e.g. IO63
Every Wed		60 mins	CWops Mini Contests	160-10m, three separate CW contests

List compiled by Joe [EI7GY](#) (All times are UTC)